

St. Norbert College OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

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Forbes is not the only publication that publishes rankings of colleges and universities. For more, take a look at [what others say about St. Norbert](#).

September 2011

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St. Norbert named as one of Forbes' top 100 colleges

St. Norbert ranks 84th among all colleges and universities in the nation, according to Forbes' 2011 America's Top Colleges rankings. This year's standing represents a 68-place jump from the college's No. 152 spot on the 2010 list.

The ranking places the college in eighth place among Catholic colleges, and in other elite company. Institutions that fall within 10 places of St. Norbert on the list include Mount Holyoke College, Boston University, St. Olaf College and Brandeis University.

President Tom Kunkel says: "We're very proud of the recognition we received in the Forbes national rankings. That's especially true since their rankings focus more on 'outcomes' – factors like graduation and retention rates, placement into good jobs or grad schools, and overall satisfaction with the college experience. These have always been strengths of St. Norbert College, and they always will be."

Forbes' rankings are prepared by the Center for College Affordability and Productivity (CCAP). CCAP evaluates schools in five areas: post-graduate success, which evaluates alumni pay and prominence; student satisfaction, which includes professor evaluations and freshman- to sophomore-year retention rates; debt, which penalizes schools for high student debt loads and default rates; four-year graduation rate; and competitive awards, which rewards schools whose students win prestigious scholarships and fellowships.

At St. Norbert, 92 percent of graduates are either employed or in graduate school within nine months of graduation.

In addition, programs like First Year Experience support the college's 84 percent retention rate, and a low student-to-faculty ratio (currently 14 to 1) likely impacts professor evaluations positively.

On the financial side, St. Norbert's competitive tuition, coupled with the aid received by nearly all of its students, results in a low student debt load. (St. Norbert is the most affordable among the top eight Catholic colleges.) The college's four-year graduation guarantee is among the factors contributing to its best-in-the-state graduation rate. And finally, faculty-

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student collaborations and joint research projects help make St. Norbert students competitive for scholarships and fellowships.

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